

The Christian Life

"As Thou Wilt"

My Jesus, "as thou wilt!"
 My will's no longer mine;
 I'm thankful it is gone,
 'Tis swallowed up in thine.
 Then give me ease or pain.
 To choose thou art the One,
 I shall be satisfied—
 Only "Thy will be done."
 My Jesus, "as thou wilt!"
 Give poverty or wealth,
 Just as it seemeth best,
 Give sickness or give health;
 Give trials, stern and long,
 Or, if thou pleasest, none;
 I'm resting on thine arms,
 While thy dear will is done.
 My Jesus, "as thou wilt!"
 My future I will leave
 In thy dear hands of love,
 For only good thou'lt give;
 Thy hands were pierced for me,
 As God's beloved Son,
 Fashion me as thou wilt—
 Thy will alone be done.
 My Jesus, "as thou wilt!"
 Only one boon I crave—
 That thou wilt use me, Lord,
 Poor, dying souls to save;
 Thy glory I would seek,
 Thy glory, Lord, alone—
 'Tis joy of thee to speak—
 Dear Lord, "Thy will be done!"
 —Mary Prentice Hopley.

Outline of Sermon

The following outline of a sermon was preached at Sunnyside, Wathington, by S. J. Harrison, and sent by H. M. Lichty, for publication. Subject—"Was Jesus Christ Practical?"

1st. Having observed that the progress in different parts of the world in civilization are not parallel with the natural resources, we have found that religion is and has been one of the chief elements in success. The south was first settled by pleasure seekers and the wining regions of the west by adventurers and gold hunters. Very different were the motives of the colonists who settled New England. With them the first object was not gold nor carnal pleasure but a longing for a place they might worship God according to the dictates of their enlightened consciences without fear or hindrance. Nature was less hospitable in New England than in the sunny south or the rich and fertile west. However the material progress of the barren shores of the North Atlantic far surpasses that of the more favored sections. We have no way of accounting for this except by the churches and schools. It is my full conviction that if we take possession of Yakima valley in the name of God and for his glory the results will surpass that of any colony established for any other purpose in the west.

2nd. It is my purpose then in this discourse to show that Jesus Christ was practical. It is a common notion that only women, children and retired people can obey the precepts of Christ. Unless we can see that Jesus laid down principles that must be heeded for success in any of the lawful vocations in life his example is of little utility.

(a) Christ was diplomatic. He knew when, how and what to speak. Refused impertinent questions, but promptly answered all proper questions. No ambassador has ever outshone Jesus Christ in brilliant diplomacy. The greatest lawyers pay homage to his arguments and expositions of fundamental law.

(b) Christ understood the laws of trade, and laid down the only basis upon which a permanently successful business can be established. "Give good measure," avoid litigation, be slow to condemn, do not meddle in other people's affairs, summing it all up in this: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

(c) Christ was persevering and patient. What he undertook he pursued without paying any attention to immediate results. He never abandoned a project once undertaken, but went on without doubting or wavering to the end.

(d) Christ was brave and uncompromising. He stood up for his opinions regardless of his environments. He refused to compromise the truth even tho it would have saved his life.

(e) Christ was an organizer. Calvin, Wesley, German Baptist Brethren, Mormons, Salvation Army and Dr. Dowie all have incorporated this element of Jesus' character in their work, and we all witness of what it has and is accomplishing for them.

(f) Jesus Christ had moral courage. He never varied his utterance to humor his auditors. He raised no false hopes, and made no ambiguous promises. He always presented the exact issue and stuck to it. He gave bigotry and hypocrisy no quarter, but ridiculed their empty ceremonies and spared no epithet against their selfishness and conceit.

Jesus Christ was intensely practical. "Not every one that saith unto me * * * shall be saved, but he that doeth the will of my Father in heaven." He has been before the world for nineteen centuries as the Son of God, and upon him has been concentrated practically all the brains of the centuries intervened, and yet no one has found a word or act unworthy of a divine being.

God helps us to take Christ into all the affairs of our lives that it may be well with us now and forever.

PRAYER MEETING TOPICS

THE PARABLES.—"THE IMPORTUNATE FRIEND"

I. The Parable. Luke 11: 5-13.

- What was the occasion? vs. 1-5.
- The parable teaches by contrast. That is, if selfish man would finally yield to importunity, how much rather the unselfish God, our Father?
- It is meant to teach perseverance in prayer.
- Things to notice: 1. The men were friends. 2. Yet the man in bed was selfish enough not to want to be disturbed. 3. What he wouldn't do for friendship's sake, he did because of the other's importunity.

II. Teachings.

a. God is not selfish like men. Isa. 55: 8, 9; John 2: 24, 25.

b. God wants us to importune him. Luke 18: 1-8. 1. Because by asking often we come to really desire more what we ask. 2. God wants us to really want a thing before he gives it to us.

c. Our prayers are not answered sometimes because we ask amiss. James 4: 3. 1. We either don't ask according to God's will. I John 5: 14. 2. Or we are selfish in our prayer. 3. Or we don't really desire what we ask. James 1: 6.

d. God loves to give us what we really want. v. 1. Matt. 7: 7-11.

e. We must persevere in prayer.

J. L. GILLIN.

"MY SPEECH SHALL DISTIL AS THE DEW"
 DEUT. 32:2.

J. M. BOWMAN.

How one falls upon such beauty here and there that it gives him the richest pleasure for hours, and often for days and weeks; and who knows but that it sweetens the whole life stream. And so often it just breaks upon one without having searched for it. It may be a beautiful picture in an artist's window that lightens the weary round of the day's business or the hours' waiting. It may be some beautiful arrangement of colors in flowers and bright draperies in some shop window. It may be some beautiful sentiment expressed in word or act. It may be a cheerful sunny face with a heart brimful of the rich wine of life. It may be some fine lines from one of the many authors. Or it may be some bright gem in the word of God that shines out to the devout student of the bible and makes his whole being beam with the radiance of its own brightness. Oh how much beauty lies all about us while so many see nothing but dulness. The bible is so full of this joy-food. And these words of Moses form a gem set about with many precious stones. It has given me pleasure and cheer and assurance for days.

But wherein is all this beauty? It can not be just in the words, tho one might search all the range of literature and fail to find a more beautiful figure than this. As the dew distils upon the thirsty grass and gives freshness and life so shall these words be life to the famishing. Or as a stream distils from the mountains, and carries fertility and beauty to the miles and miles of the otherwise desert, that lies below; and makes bright homes and lives for the thousands by its bounty, so the speech of the patriarch is distilling hope and freshness and life and security and praise along the ages, in heaven and upon earth.

It can hardly be in the manner of speaking, tho it is a little surprising to hear Moses say such a beautiful thing about his speech when he had sorrowfully plead with God to excuse him on account of his slow speech. He said, "Oh Lord I am not eloquent, neither heretofore, nor since thou hast spoke-